

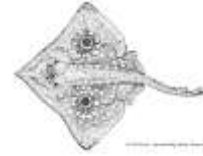
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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COOK INLET AREA FISHERIES UPDATE

PARALLEL PACIFIC COD JIG SEASON REMAINS OPEN

STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD POT SEASON REMAINS OPEN

This fisheries update provides information on the status of Pacific cod fisheries in the Cook Inlet Area (CI).

The CI **parallel Pacific cod season will remain open to jig gear** until closed by emergency order (EO). The parallel Pacific cod season opened to jig gear on January 1 by EO (#2-GF-H-01-13) concurrent with the initial or "A" season in the adjacent federal Central Gulf of Alaska Regulatory Area (CGOA) which remains open. The federal "A" season will close and the "B" season will immediately open at 12:00 noon on June 10 in the CGOA. Therefore, the parallel Pacific cod season will remain open to jig gear through the federal transition from the "A" to the "B" season, until closed by EO.

The CI **state-waters Pacific cod season will remain open to vessels less than or equal to 58 feet in length and fishing with pot gear** until closed by EO. The CI state-waters Pacific cod season opened to pot gear at 12:00 noon, February 11 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 4,074,804 pounds allocated 85% or 3.46 million pounds to pot gear (EO #2-GF-H-02-13). The season closed to vessels greater than 58 feet in length and fishing pot gear at 5:00 pm March 11 (EO #2-GF-H-03-13) after achieving their 25% limit of the GHL. Currently, there is 709,318 pounds remaining for pot gear (vessels $\leq 58'$). If there is GHL remaining after September 1, it will become available to all legal gear groups with no vessel size restrictions.

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